

In re Patent Application of:

CHARBENEAU

Serial No. 10/677,935

Filed: OCTOBER 2, 2003

IN THE CLAIMES:

Please cancel Claims 1-3 and add the following new claims:

4. A retaining device for use in a vehicle
comprising:

a body having an upper portion, a lower portion, and a medial portion, said body having a polygonal shape, a plurality of spaced apart apertures formed in the medial portion, a first plurality of passageways formed in the upper portion, and a second plurality of passageways formed in the lower portion; and

a first pair of mounting members that matingly engage the first plurality of passageways, and a second pair of mounting members that matingly engage the second plurality of passageways so that said body may be detachably mounted within the vehicle to allow at least one object to be retained on said body when mounted.

5. A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein each of said plurality of apertures is a C-shaped aperture.

6. A retaining device according to Claim 5 wherein each one of said plurality of C-shaped apertures defines an upwardly extending mounting member when said body is mounted within the vehicle, each of said upwardly extending mounting members for engaging handles of a shopping bag to thereby retain the shopping bag when said body is mounted within the vehicle.

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7. A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein the first plurality of passageways and the second plurality of passageways are longitudinal passageways.

8. A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein the polygonal shape of said body is a substantially octagonal shape.

9. A retaining device according to Claim 4 further comprising advertising indicia positioned on said body.

10. A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein said first and second pairs of mounting members are first and second pairs of mounting straps.

11. A retaining device according to Claim 10 wherein said body is moveable between a mounted position and a dismounted position.

12. A retaining device according to Claim 11 wherein said body is detachably mounted to a vehicle seat when in the mounted position by engaging said first and second pairs of mounting straps with a portion of the vehicle seat.

13. A retaining device for use in a vehicle comprising:

a body having an arcuate shape, a plurality of spaced apart apertures formed therein; and

a plurality of mounting straps connected to said body

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for detachably mounting said body to a vehicle seat within the vehicle.

14. A retaining device according to Claim 13 wherein each of said plurality of apertures is a C-shaped aperture.

15. A retaining device according to Claim 14 wherein each one of said plurality of C-shaped apertures defines an upwardly extending mounting member when said body is mounted to the vehicle seat within the vehicle, said upwardly extending mounting member for engaging handles of a shopping bag to thereby retain the shopping bag adjacent said body.

16. A retaining device according to Claim 13 further comprising advertising indicia positioned on said body.

17. A retaining device according to Claim 13 wherein said body has a plurality of longitudinal passageways formed therein so that said plurality of mounting straps may matingly engage said body to thereby detachably mount said body to the vehicle seat of the vehicle.

18. A method of retaining an object in a vehicle, the method comprising:

detachably mounting a body of a retaining device within a vehicle, the body having a plurality of spaced apart apertures formed therein, and a pair of mounting straps connected thereto; and

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engaging a portion of an object to at least one upwardly extending mounting member defined by a respective at least one of the plurality of spaced apart apertures.

19. A method according to Claim 18 wherein each of the plurality of apertures is a C-shaped aperture.

20. A method according to Claim 18 wherein the body further comprises advertising indicia positioned thereon.

21. A method according to Claim 18 wherein detachably mounting the body comprises detachably mounting the body to a vehicle seat within the vehicle.

22. A method according to Claim 18 wherein the pair of mounting straps matingly engage respective longitudinal passageways formed in the body to detachably mount the body within the vehicle.

23. A method according to Claim 18 wherein the mounting straps are elastic mounting straps.